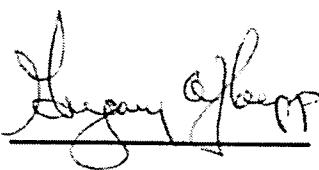


Address all correspondence and telephone calls to: Customer No. 32242,

Jerome R. Drouillard  
Dykema Gossett PLLC  
315 East Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 100  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
Phone: (734) 214-7670

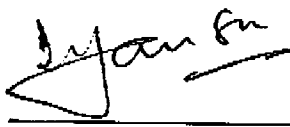
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INVENTOR:	RESIDENCE	CITIZENSHIP	SIGNATURE	DATE
Gregory A. Kaepf 1325 N. Denwood Dearborn, MI. 48128	Dearborn, Michigan	United States		9/16/2003
Conrad M. Kudelko 15078 Woodside Drive Livonia, MI. 48154	Livonia, Michigan	United States		
Robert T. Laster 1785 Norton Creek Court Wixom, MI. 48393	Wixom, Michigan	United States		
Irfan Sharif 47072 Yarmouth Drive Canton, MI. 48188	Canton, Michigan	United States		

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE	
	17.	3,905,630	1975/09/16	Cantrell				
	18.	3,912,295	1975/10/14	Eggert, Jr.				
	19.	3,930,670	1976/01/06	Haskins				
	20.	3,938,841	1976/02/17	Glance et al				
	21.	3,964,768	1976/06/22	Reynolds				
	22.	3,997,207	1976/12/14	Norlin				
	23.	3,998,485	1976/12/21	Putter et al				
	24.	4,109,930	1978/08/29	Pilhall				
	25.	4,023,652	1977/05/17	Torke				
	26.	4,190,276	1980/02/26	Hirano et al				
	27.	4,272,114	1981/06/09	Hirano et al				
	28.	4,465,312	1984/08/14	Werner				
	29.	4,468,052	1984/08/28	Koike				
	30.	4,634,163	1987/01/06	Bundy et al				
	31.	4,738,464	1988/04/19	Putnam				
	32.	4,829,979	1989/05/16	Moir				
	33.	4,830,686	1989/05/16	Hashiguchi et al				
	34.	4,893,856	1990/01/16	Council				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION Yes No	
	3.							
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		68. 6,189,910	2001/02/20	Bartel				
		69. 6,318,748	2001/11/22	Hery				
		70. 6,481,734	2002/11/19	Blake				
		71. 6,502,848	2003/01/07	Chou et al				
		72. 6,581,955	2003/06/24	Aquinto et al				
		73.						
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Irfan Sharif 47072 Yarmouth Drive Canton, MI. 48188	Canton, Michigan	United States		

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: GREGORY A. KAEPP, CONRAD M. KUDELKO, ROBERT T.  
LASTER and IRFAN SHARIF

Filed: Herewith

For: AUTOMOTIVE BUMPER WITH INTEGRAL HITCH COVER

Atty Docket: 201-0904CIP

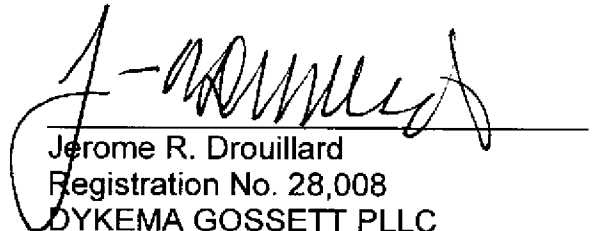
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO-1449 a list of patents of which they are aware and which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and to which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56. While this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is prior art for this invention.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerome R. Drouillard  
Registration No. 28,008  
DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC  
315 E. Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 100  
Ann Arbor, MI. 48108  
(734) 214-7670  
Attorneys for Applicants

Dated: September 17, 2003

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	35.	4,901,486	1990/02/20	Kobori et al				
	36.	5,080,411	1992/01/14	Stewart et al				
	37.	5,094,469	1992/03/10	Yamamoto et al				
	38.	5,116,092	1992/05/26	Schonleber				
	39.	5,154,462	1992/10/13	Carpenter				
	40.	5,184,840	1993/02/09	Edwards				
	41.	5,201,912	1993/04/13	Terada et al				
	42.	5,273,330	1993/12/28	Petry et al				
	43.	5,314,229	1994/05/24	Matuzawa et al				
	44.	5,364,142	1994/11/15	Coiner				
	45.	5,387,002	1995/02/07	Grevich				
	46.	5,419,416	1995/05/30	Miyashita et al				
	47.	5,431,445	1995/07/11	Wheatley				
	48.	5,560,631	1996/10/01	Salvo				
	49.	5,620,218	1997/04/15	Saltzman				
	50.	5,628,536	1997/05/13	Fulkerson				
	51.	5,688,006	1997/11/18	Bladow et al				
	52.	5,722,708	1998/03/03	Jonsson				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION Yes No	
	4.							
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## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Attorney's Docket No.  
201-0904CIP

As a below named inventors, we hereby declare:  
Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our name;

We verily believe we are the original, first and sole inventors or an original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**AUTOMOTIVE BUMPER WITH INTEGRAL HITCH COVER**

the specification of which is attached hereto.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification identified above, including the claims.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Section 1.56(a), Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations; and as to application for patents or inventor's certificate on the invention filed in any country foreign to the United States of America, prior to this application by us or our legal representatives or assigns,

☒ no such applications have been filed, or

☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

☐ I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING (month, day, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (month, day, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Number)                      (Filing Date)                      (Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Number)                      (Filing Date)                      (Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** - I/we hereby appoint the following Practitioners: Customer No. 32242, Jerome R. Drouillard - 28,008, as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office and all foreign Patent Offices.

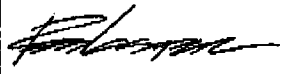
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE
	1.	1,581,432	1926/04/20	Fageol			
	2.	1,935,447	1933/11/14	Hoffman			
	3.	2,604,349	1952/07/22	Martinetz			
	4.	2,753,193	1956/07/03	Halverson			
	5.	2,828,144	1958/03/25	Hosmer			
	6.	3,412,628	1968/11/26	DeGain			
	7.	3,495,474	1970/02/17	Nishimura et al			
	8.	3,578,358	1971/05/11	Reynolds			
	9.	3,717,362	1973/02/20	Johnson			
	10.	3,739,882	1973/06/19	Schwenk et al			
	11.	3,819,224	1974/06/25	Casey et al			
	12.	3,831,997	1974/08/27	Myers			
	13.	3,863,956	1975/02/04	Khan			
	14.	3,885,817	1975/05/27	Christian			
	15.	3,888,515	1975/06/10	Winter			
	16.	3,897,095	1975/07/29	Glance et al			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION Yes No
	1.	2,137,517	1973/02/08	Germany			
	2.	2,307,665	1995/11/30	United Kingdom			
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	1.						
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	53.	5,727,804	1998/03/17	Metzger				
	54.	5,732,801	1998/03/31	Gertz				
	55.	5,785,367	1998/07/28	Baumann et al				
	56.	5,803,514	1998/09/08	Shibuya et al				
	57.	5,829,774	1998/11/03	Klemp				
	58.	5,853,187	1998/12/29	Maier				
	59.	5,876,078	1999/03/02	Miskech et al				
	60.	5,560,631	1996/10/01	Salvo				
	61.	5,628,536	1997/05/13	Fulkerson				
	62.	5,934,699	1999/08/10	Blake				
	63.	6,139,044	2000/10/31	Smith et al				
	64.	6,145,865	2000/11/14	Cannara et al				
	65.	6,149,181	2000/11/21	Beiderman				
	66.	6,176,506	2001/01/23	Blake				
	67.	6,179,320	2001/01/30	Chou et al				
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